

III. DISCOVERY AND TRIALS

General L.R. 16.1 Trial Time Limits

After consideration of the final pretrial reports filed under Civil L.R. 16.1, or at such other time as the Court may direct, judges and magistrate judges may establish reasonable time limits for the trial of all civil and criminal cases.

General L.R. 26.1 Sequential Numbering of Exhibits

Documents identified as exhibits during the course of depositions, other pretrial proceedings, and at trial must be numbered sequentially. Only one exhibit number shall be assigned to any given document or physical object throughout the course of the action. Numbers 1-999 shall be reserved for plaintiff's/prosecution's exhibits, and numbers 1000-1999 shall be reserved for defendant's exhibits. If more than two parties appear in the litigation, successive blocks of 1000 shall be reserved for each additional party starting with 2000-2999.

General L.R. 40.1 Inquiries

All inquiries concerning any pending action must be directed to the office of the judge or magistrate judge to whom the case is assigned, except inquiries as to whether or not there is a docket entry for a particular item. Inquiries about docket entries must be directed to the Clerk of Court.

General L.R. 43.1 Examination of Witnesses

Unless otherwise ordered, only one attorney for each party shall examine or cross-examine a witness.

General L.R. 47.1 Voir Dire of Prospective Jurors

Unless otherwise ordered, the voir dire examination of prospective jurors must be conducted by the Court. Counsel should submit written proposed questions for voir dire. Counsel should request such additional questions as they deem necessary in light of prospective jurors' responses to the Court's examination.

General L.R. 47.2 Juror Questionnaires

Jury qualification questionnaires must be available for inspection in the office of the Clerk of Court at any time after the jury panel has been notified to appear.

General L.R. 47.3 Attorney Communications with Jurors

This rule applies to any communication before trial with members of the venire from which the jury will be selected, as well as any communication with members of the jury during trial, deliberations, and after the return of a verdict. No attorneys appearing in any branch of this Court, or any of their agents or employees, shall approach, interview, or communicate with any member of the jury except on leave of Court granted upon notice to opposing counsel and upon good cause shown. Good cause includes a trial attorney's request for permission to contact one or more jurors after trial for the trial attorney's educational benefit. The juror(s) must be advised at the outset of any communication that his or her participation is voluntary. Any juror contact permitted by the Court under this rule must be subject to the control of the Court.

General L.R. 51.1 Jury Instructions

Counsel must submit written proposed jury instructions and, if required, a written form of verdict before the commencement of the trial. Further instructions may be submitted after the commencement of the trial as permitted by the Court.